

# THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER

VOLUME IX.

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1915

NUMBER 12

## NOW JUST ABSORB THIS, FRESH FROM REPUBLICAN FOUNTAIN HEAD

That Standpat G. O. P. Organ the New York Tribune Strikes from Shoulder

In Vitriolic Words It Expresses Its Contempt for Its Party Leaders

When the leader of a party of men becomes so disgusted with their actions that he can no longer put up with their methods, he expresses his opinion of them in words that burn. When a newspaper becomes so disgusted with the actions of its followers that it can no longer tolerate them it does the same thing—that is why that leader of leaders in Republican politics—the Moses who has more than once led the scattered remnants of the Grand Old Party out of the sloughs of despond—that peerless advocate of Republicanism unswerving and undented, the New York Tribune, has seen fit to balk and to tell the Republican hosts just what it thinks of them—and in words that sear, scar and burn.

An honest confession is good for the soul—and good for other things—notably the purging of the bile which has accumulated through long and continually added doses of the same old medicine, therefore when this accumulation has reached its sufficiency the Tribune cleanses its soul with a burning editorial beginning with this lurid sentence:

**The Situation an Unusual One**  
When the leading Republican organ confesses its contempt for the leaders—the national committeemen—of its own party, it must be admitted that the situation is an unusual one. But the facts as the Tribune outlines them are such as to explain that newspaper's feelings.

In charge of the assembly, it declares, were men whose very names have become odious to millions of American voters. They are showing the same spirit as led to the revolt of 1912. "Every outward evidence indicates that the Republican leaders are now planning to return to power, as did the hordes, having learned nothing, having forgotten nothing."

Cowardice and petty politics, the Tribune finds, characterize the course of these leaders in dealing with the president's foreign policies. The president must be attacked for weakness, but in doing so care must be taken not to offend the German-American voters. Therefore attack the Mexican policy. "Happily there are no Mexican-American voters." Continuing, the Tribune says:

**Bull Moose No Menace**  
The main line of attack is still after; let us stick to the economic argument, to prosperity, which is sound Republican gospel. If there is some

## ARE YOU ALL READY?

Have You Thought of the Poor Who Will Have No Christmas Next Saturday?

Next Saturday—Two days from today—Christmas will be upon us, and what should be the gladdest festival of 1915 will have been ushered in.

Has everybody put their house in order for it?

What about the stocking pendant beneath every chimney?

Have you thought of it?

And if so, what is your plan in relation to it?

Of course you have thought of the stockings that will yawn beneath the chimney in your own home, or in the homes of relatives you love, or in the homes of those whose favor you crave enough to teach you to be thoughtful of them.

But how about your neighbors, or those more remote from you than neighbors, and who live in the next block but one, or on the other side of town? Have you even taken thought of those who may live within the shadow of your own home, homes wherein the expectant children may know no Christmas if you overlook them?

Has it dawned upon you that while you have plenty for you and yours, your responsibilities go out beyond the sheltering walls of your own home, and that all who have no other assurance of Christmas cheer have some claim upon you which your conscience and intelligence must sooner or later recognize?

Do you realize that it should not be permitted you to forget, for any waking hour between this day and tomorrow night, that a whole lot of kids are longingly wondering what the gentle-hearted patron saint of the Christmas season is going to bring to them? To them the image of Santa Claus is intensely real. Nothing in all the world is more genuine or more important.

Do you realize, you who have made thoughtful provision for your own little ones, that there rests upon you any responsibility for an assurance that no tiny head of curls in the next home, or the next block, or in the next ward, sinks to restless slumber Friday night only to wake upon a disappointment on the morning that is next to paganism and heresy?

There is something up to you. Can you realize it?

What is it?

Why, upon each one of you, individually, rests a divinely imposed obligation to see that no child in St. Joseph is permitted to know on Christmas morn no new season of the significance of Christmas or to feel not aware that peaceful benediction that found expression in the Bethlehem manger.

No one is going to escape this responsibility.

It is up to each to see that the dreams of the babes all come true.

## READ THIS, YOU CROAKER

It Comes From Bradstreet's and There Is No Way of Getting Around These Prosperity Facts

New York, Dec. 17.—"Sustained activity in a majority of lines with prospects of still greater growth, typify current trade and industrial conditions. Contrary to precedent, the larger trades do not display the customary pre-holiday characteristics that usually prevail when the time for the taking of inventories arrives. True, there has been a lull in some sections, but activity is maintained so steadily that salesmen are remaining on the road longer than usual at this season and most reports agree that wholesale as well as jobbing trade is of large volume.

"In addition, Christmas shopping is in full swing, buying at many centers is the heaviest in years, regular retail trade is heavy, wearing apparel is excellent, mail order houses are doing a record business, buying for future delivery is good, industrial activity is especially noteworthy, labor is well employed at good wages, farmers, except in a few places, are prosperous, the week has seen further advances in prices for cereals, collections are good, bank clearings heavily exceed those of this time in 1914, money is in better demand and railway traffic is heavy.

"Re-orders for staples are such as to suggest that stocks had been started, and that the new wave of prosperity has given so much of an impetus to final distribution that repeat orders keep coming in."

The Knoebuster Gem is authority for the statement that a citizen there is in the winter months almost wholly on brick cheese.

## ST. JOSEPH'S NEEDLESS BLACK EYE

St. Joseph received a "black eye," figuratively speaking, Monday when the clearings of the associated banks of the country went sent out by Bradstreet's. The figures as shown by the tele-graph report disclosed that there was a decrease for the week of 5.5 per cent.

The truth of the matter is that the compilers at Bradstreet's headquarters made an error which they discovered much to their chagrin, when Mr. W. A. P. McDonald, manager of the St. Joseph Clearing House, tele-graphed them for an explanation. The fact is that instead of a decrease, there was an increase of 2.5 over the clearings of the week previous, and Bradstreet's promptly rectified the error.

## WILL HAVE AERIAL MAIL

Missouri Selected to Try Out the Idea of Mail Delivery by Aeroplane in the Near Future

To Missouri falls the honor of being selected by the United States post-office department as the point from which aeroplane service will be tried out. Captain Albert B. Lambert, of St. Louis, ranking captain of the United States Aviation Corps states all details are completed.

Two routes have been planned, one in Missouri and one interstate route between Missouri and Illinois. Rolla, Mo., will be the base of operations for the all-Missouri route, starting at Rolla and passing through Licking and Houston to Cabool in the southwest part of Texas county.

The other route will start at Perdue, Mo., about 50 miles north and west of St. Louis, on the Burlington Railway, cross to Golden Eagle and Brunsell, Ill. detour westward to Beechville on the Illinois shore, and thence through Meppin, Hardin, Michael, Kampsville and Bee Creek to Pearl on the Alton Railway in Pike county. The Missouri route will cross a county without railway and will join two branches of the Frisco by the air route. Licking and Houston are without railway service.

The plan was fathered by Postmaster General Burleson and now awaits congressional appropriation to put it into effect in Illinois and Missouri. Captain Lambert was aided by Frank McFarland, superintendent of outside mail for St. Louis, in mapping the routes and making the plans. The report is ready for the action of congress.

The aeroplane mail service is to serve as a peg upon which is to be hung United States preparedness in the matter of military aircraft. It is planned to place in the government service between 200 and 300 aeroplanes in a short time after the aerial mail routes are started. These aviators will be trained for their duties by the government, and all will be listed in the Aviation Reserve Corps and must serve in case of war.

It is planned to establish aerial mail routes in the Middle West, the West and the East. A call to the colors would bring these men, trained to fly under all topographical and weather conditions, into the service of the country. These men are to be shifted from aerial route to aerial route in order to give them this experience.

## MUNKERS, FIRST BORN

Was the First White Child to See the Light of Day in the Platte Purchase

For years past it was supposed that the late R. T. Davis of this city, the founder of the famous Davis mills, was the first white child to be born in the Platte Purchase. He was born the year that the Platte Purchase was made from its aboriginal owners.

Now comes David C. McKee of Guilford, a man who is well known in this city and who has lived all of his life in the state, who says that David C. Munkers, who resides neighbor to him, near Guilford, is the man to whom the honor should go. Said Mr. McKee while in St. Joseph Monday enroute to visit friends at Plattburg and Gower.

"Dan Munkers was born in what you people call the Pocket, a point just below Agency in your county, in April, 1827, just six weeks after the Platte Purchase was made. He was nearly a month ahead of Davis, and that fact has been demonstrated more than once. Munkers is still a hearty, vigorous man and enjoys life like a schoolboy. He is one of our good citizens and should you people put on that Platte Purchase Pageant, which

(Continued on Page Eight)

## SHOULD BE THE LAST TO PROTEST

As a Protector of Small States Against Aggression Teddy Was a Failure

## ON THE CONTRARY HE GRABBED INSTEAD

Homer B. Huribert, an Accepted Authority on China, Japan and Korea, Neatly Holds the Noisy Colonel on His Own Petard and Shows That Not Only Does Roosevelt Have No Right to Criticize President Wilson, But That on the Contrary His Own Acts While President Were in Direct Conflict With What He Now Alleges Is Wilson's Actions.

One of the most complete and smashing rejoins to Col. Roosevelt's standing indictment of President Wilson—that the president did not intervene by force of arms if necessary to save Belgium from the German invader—is that made by Homer B. Huribert of Springfield, Mass., one of the most noted authorities on China, Japan and Korea, who has spent almost his entire life in the Orient in important capacities and whose word in matters pertaining to the Far East is final.

Writing to the New York Times, recently and properly holds the noisy colonel on his own petard and in common parlance "hangs his hide on the fence," for there can be no gainsaying of his assertions, as they are all backed up by the official documents in the case as a plain recital of facts discloses.

It was in 1906 when the noisy Roosevelt was president of these United States that Japan benevolently assimilated Korea. As Belgium lies between two great powers, Germany and England, so Korea lies between Japan and Russia. Just as Germany wanted to cross Belgium to strike France, so Japan wanted to cross Korea to strike Russia. Precisely as Germany guaranteed Belgium's independence if permission should be granted, so Japan guaranteed Korea's independence. Precisely as Germany broke the neutrality of Belgium, so Japan ignored her obligations and trampled upon Korea; or rather, Japan's acts were far worse than Germany's, for Korea consented to let Japan use her territory to strike at Russia, and in spite of this Japan destroyed Korea.

**Where Was Teddy's Protest?**

Not only were there no protestations from the United States in Korea's behalf, but the United States, under Theodore Roosevelt, actually betrayed Korea and violated its solemn obligations. Let Mr. Huribert tell the story:

At the moment when Japan was just crouching to spring at the throat of Korea, the emperor of Korea called upon President Roosevelt to keep America's treaty with him—a treaty which held in its first clause the promise that if Korea were endangered by any third party this government would use its good offices to effect an amicable arrangement. Roosevelt refused to read or even to receive the written message sent to him from the emperor of a friendly power with which we were supposedly on friendly relations. That written message was taken to the state department, but the secretary of state refused to receive it for forty-eight hours. Meanwhile Japan at the point of the sword had forced her "protectors" upon Korea. President Roosevelt had hurriedly acknowledged that seizure without a word of warning to the Korean government nor a word to the Korean legation in Washington, and had cabled to our legation to get out of Korea. The state department then offered to see the written message from Korea, and the writer has in his possession a note from the secretary of state saying that the message is "too late." It was there forty-eight hours before President Roosevelt took action and he knew its contents, for one of his secretaries at the White House told me so with his own lips.

When that written message was handed to the secretary of state he leaned over the table and said to the envoy of the emperor: "Do you want to get us into trouble with Japan?" This he said as Roosevelt's secretary of state, and it shows the cowardly state of mind to which the administration was reduced by the distant possibility of a clash with Japan. We did not dare to assert our treaty rights nor live up to our treaty obligations.

**Should Be Last to Complain**

Mr. Huribert concludes his recital of this history, in which he himself played a prominent part, by saying: "The last person in the world to com-

(Continued on Page Eight)

## LARGEST IN ITS HISTORY

Despite the Ill Effects of the European War the Postoffice Department Has Done Well

The European war gave postal receipts a severe setback, according to the annual report of Hon. A. M. Dockery, third assistant postmaster general, made public today. It is shown that postal receipts increased yearly for the fiscal years 1910 to 1914, inclusive, at an average of about 7 1/2 per cent. Actual postal surpluses of \$3,800,000 for the fiscal year 1913 and \$1,500,000 for 1914 were covered into the treasury.

Rumblings of the impending conflict in Europe were heard in July, 1914, and postal receipts, the unerring thermometer of business conditions and barometer for coming events, as Governor Dockery forcefully styles them, began to fall. A veritable slump occurred in August, the first month of the war, and sharp declines in receipts followed monthly until November, when they reached the point of lowest depression. Then the tide turned. Poise was regained and business began to adjust itself to existing conditions. Postal receipts responded quickly and have been climbing up ever since in step with increasing prosperity and commercial activity throughout the country.

Postal revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1915, are shown to have been \$287,248,165.27, or about one-quarter of one per cent less than in the preceding year. Expenditures were \$288,546,026.42. Adding \$35,447.82 for losses due to fires, burglaries, etc., a deficit for the year of \$11,332,898.97 is shown by audited accounts.

In addition to being the financial officer of the postal service proper, Governor Dockery's supervision embraces the postal savings system, money order service, classification of mail matter, insurance and redemption of stamped paper, the registry system, and the insurance and collect-on-delivery features of the parcel post.

The growth of the postal savings system for the year is shown to have been the largest in its history, both in number of depositors and amount deposited. On June 30, 1915, there were 525,414 depositors having to their credit \$65,884,798, an increase of about 127,000 individual depositors and over \$22,000,000 in deposits. Depositors born outside of the United States own just short of 72 per cent of all the deposits. Approximately 30,000 depositors have \$500 accounts and under the law as it now stands no more can be accepted from them, and of this number more than 22,000 are foreign born.

The money order service felt the demoralizing effects of the war along with the general postal receipts and the international business necessarily continues to suffer. The domestic money order business, however, responded quickly to improving conditions until the quarter ended June 30, 1915, showed a substantial increase over the corresponding period in 1914. There were 108,127,868 money orders issued during the year for \$716,911,208.46.

Payment of domestic money orders at any money order office in the United States, irrespective of the office on which drawn—a procedure installed July 1, 1914—is shown to have been highly approved by the public and to have contributed materially to the usefulness of the system.

Nearly 56,000,000 pieces of mail were registered, insured or sent collect-on-delivery during the year, a marked increase over the preceding year. More than 18,000,000 parcels were insured, in addition to about 5,000,000 packages that were sent "collect-on-delivery," which automatically includes insurance, a gain of 35 per cent over 1914.

## CERTAINLY A "HOT ONE"

The Lincoln Star Takes the "Steamed" Gazette to Task for Insulting Our National Heroes

The "steamed" Gazette has certainly received a "calling down" for its language used toward the old soldiers yet alive, and the departed heroes of this republic from the Lincoln (Nebr.) Daily Star, which vents its insight to the men who saved the nation in these pertinent and caustic words:

"A versatile writer on the St. Joseph Gazette who thinks with his fingers, mentioning the fact, if it is a fact, that the first submarine ever built, an American invention that was christened 'The Foekiller,' was dug up out of the Chicago river recently, where it had lain buried for years, appended a tribute on the aptitude of the same 'Foekiller' for such a craft, as an in-

(Continued on Page Eight)

## TO CELEBRATE MISSOURI'S CENTENNIAL

The first step toward holding a state-wide centennial celebration of Missouri's admission into the union was made at the annual meeting of the State Historical society. President R. M. White was authorized to appoint a committee, of which Governor Major is to be honorary chairman, to promote such a celebration. Walter B. Stevens of St. Louis, eminent Missouri historian, suggested that celebrations take place in each county and that they might take the form of pageants. It also was suggested that an "Old Home Week" be combined with the anniversary celebration.

## HENRY VOGELMAN RESIGNS

On Tuesday, Henry Vogelmann, police commissioner, forwarded his resignation to Governor Major, and asked that it be made effective at once. Who his successor will be is yet problematic. Mr. Vogelmann will now, it is expected by his hosts of friends, get actively into the race for the Democratic nomination for mayor, and he will have a very strong following.

## LIVE WITHIN ITS INCOME

That is the Slogan of William R. Painter, Who is a Candidate for Governor

Lieutenant Governor William R. Painter, who is now a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor, is working steadfastly in his campaign. In a letter to a local friend here he says, among other things:

"A thing I would lay stress upon and guarantee to do, if I am elected governor, is that Missouri would always keep within her income. I believe that at present Missouri is too much governed. I would do everything possible to secure better schools, better roads, better government. In other words, I would want to be an every day governor of Missouri, taking up and settling the duties of the day, rather than thinking of the things that might be."

## Teddy Teethodora Can Get Action

If the belligerent Mr. Roosevelt must have war and has an ambition to go down in history as having been carried home in a hand-basket in a Packingham, he can get action in front of the Austro-German-Bulgarian firing lines. Yes, sir, one can find the real article there—Aitchison County Mail.